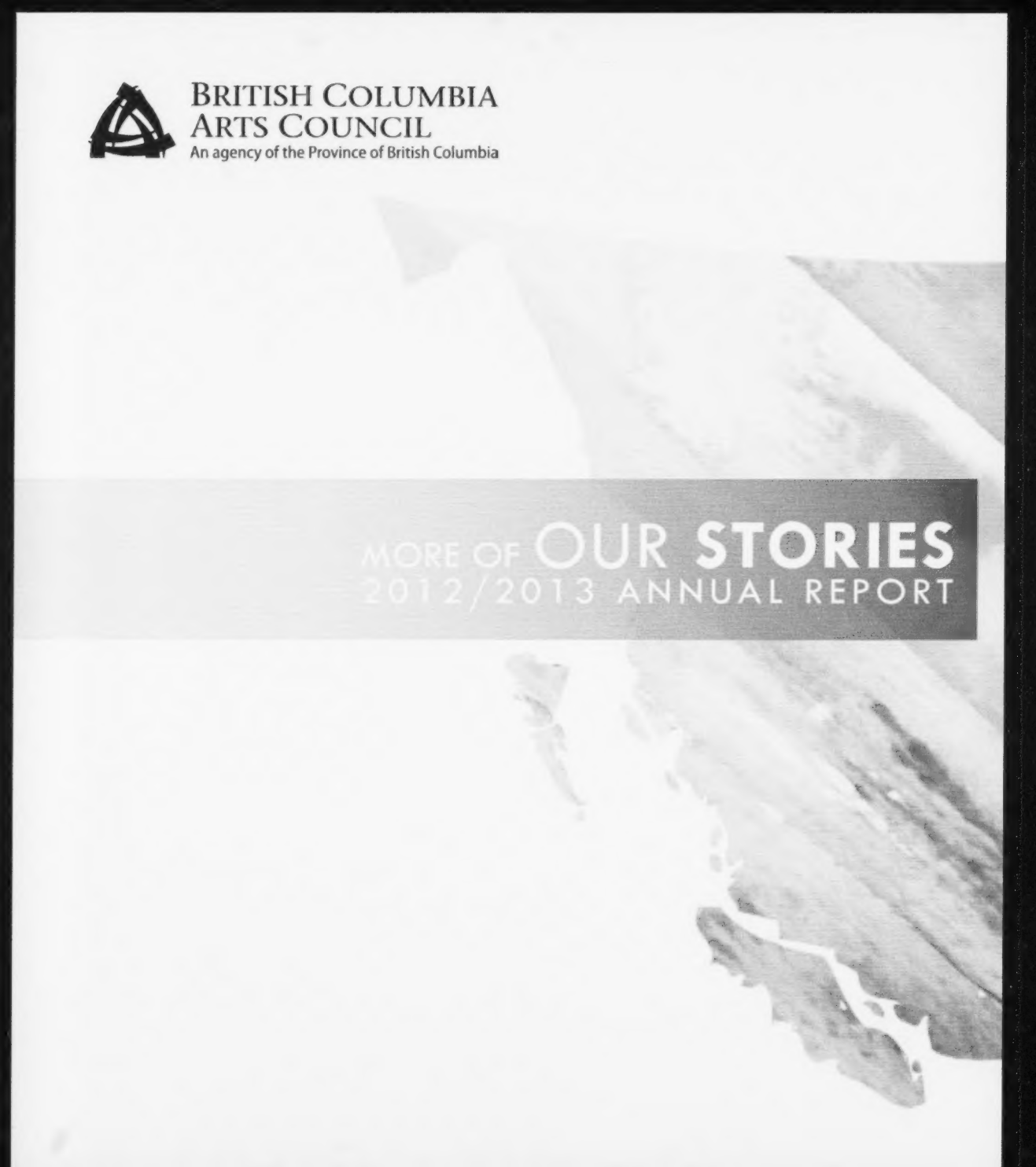
BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL
An agency of the Province of British Columbia

MORE OF OUR STORIES
2012/2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Annual Report 2012/2013

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MESSAGE
FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OVERVIEW

The BC Arts Council is firmly committed to supporting the arts and cultural community's outstanding contribution to the cultural, economic and social well-being of British Columbians. Throughout 2012/13, the Council focused on its mission *"to engage all British Columbians in a healthy arts and cultural community that is recognized for its excellence"* by supporting artists and organizations engaged in the fields of media arts, dance, publishing, literary arts, creative writing, theatre, music, museums, community arts, visual arts and arts training.

With the strong support of the Province of B.C. through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Council maintained a stable grants budget totaling $16.831 million for 2012/13, including $6.75 million from the 2010 Sport and Arts Legacy. During the first part of the 2012/13 fiscal year, the Council benefited from the leadership of then Honourable Ida Chong, Minister. Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister, led the Ministry from October 2012 onwards, again providing Council with strong guidance and support. Honourable Coralee Oakes, Minister, was appointed in June 2013 and we look forward to working with her in 2013/14.

In 2012/13, the Council awarded more than 1,000 grants using our established peer review process. Engaging artists from across B.C., our advisory committees and juries adjudicated a wide range of applications from individual artists, collectives and organizations. Each proposal is assessed against published criteria which guide the peer review process and are informed by the Council's Strategic Plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Council is guided by the goals and objectives of the 2009-2013 Strategic Plan. The plan rests on the strong belief that a thriving arts and cultural community contributes not only to a healthy civil society, but also to economic growth, stronger communities and job creation. Thriving arts and cultural communities foster opportunities and raise aspirations. Through the arts we explore issues of heritage and cultural identity, issues that play a central role in B.C.'s cultural diversity.

The Council's Strategic Plan outlines four high-level goals:

1 | Fostering artistic excellence

2 | Strengthening community engagement

3 | Supporting the unique role of Aboriginal artists and communities

4 | Enhancing financial and other services

During 2012, the Council began the research required for renewal of the plan, with delivery planned for the autumn of 2013. Working with artists on our various advisory committees and through a province-wide survey, the Council will create a plan that will guide our future direction through 2017.

Artistic excellence

Fostering artistic excellence is the Council's primary strategic goal and the fundamental basis for the awarding of our funding. With core annual support from the Council, each year 200 organizations produce highly regarded programming that spans the creative spectrum and contributes to B.C.'s cultural legacy.

Excellence was also supported through a total of 204 individual grants, which were awarded to professional artists for the creation of new, original projects. Finally, Special Projects – Innovations and Commissioning supported 44 exciting, new projects that demonstrated the innovation and risk-taking, critical to our creative development and future growth.

Strengthening community engagement

The Council is committed to strengthening community engagement by supporting artists and organizations in more than 200 B.C. towns and cities each year. Through their work, our artists engage with audiences and the general public in a wide a range of settings, including schools, arts centres, theatres, galleries, museums, town halls, parks, studios, community centres and public spaces. The Council assists creative work that touches the lives of thousands of British Columbians of all ages. In addition, our artists reveal B.C.'s unique qualities nationally and internationally through tours and exhibitions around the world.

The Council also strives to build relationships through networking and outreach activities. The Council builds on strong relationships with representatives of governments including municipal, provincial and federal agencies. Through participation in the Canadian Public Arts Funders network, the Council continues a national and international discussion of the public value of the arts and culture.

Aboriginal Artists and Communities

The Council supports the unique role of Aboriginal artists in communities throughout the province. In a key partnership with the First Peoples' Cultural Council, we supported 52 projects which assisted the sharing of traditions, capacity building and internships for Aboriginal artists and organizations. We also ensured that all meetings hosted by the Council acknowledged the traditional First Nations territory and that practitioners with expertise in Aboriginal arts are an integral part of our peer review process.

During 2012/13, the Council also welcomed our first Aboriginal Youth Intern, Kelli Clifton, a gifted young artist whose work will build the community's understanding of the critical role that our Aboriginal artists play in the growth and development of B.C.'s creative future.

Financial assistance and other services

Throughout the year the Council worked to enhance the financial assistance and other services provided to the arts and cultural community, working to improve funding programs to strengthen the sector. In 2012/13 the Special Projects – Capacity and Sustainability program supported 44 new, innovative solutions for building organizational sustainability. To develop future generations of artists and administrators, the Council also provided 22 arts and cultural organizations assistance to hire co-operative education work term students from post-secondary institutions.

LOOKING AHEAD

In January 2013, Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister, announced the BC Creative Futures Strategy, which involved several initiatives to build B.C.'s creative economy. In addition to a $114 million investment in the new campus for Emily Carr University of Art and Design and the launch of Creative BC, the strategy included a major new investment to increase youth engagement in the arts. Providing $5.25 million in new funding for the Council, the strategy rests on the belief that greater youth engagement in the arts will not only develop the critical innovative thinkers necessary for B.C.'s growing creative sector, it will also develop the next generation of arts enthusiasts **and the creative and critical thinkers needed for other sectors.** In total, the Province of B.C. committed to future funding of the Council at the record level of $24 million for the 2013/14 fiscal year and beyond.

SUMMARY

We would like to acknowledge B.C.'s artists, as well as the community leaders who are committed to supporting and advancing the arts across British Columbia and sharing our strengths with other provinces and countries. We also acknowledge the strong commitment of our staff at the Council offices and appointed members. During the year we said farewell to members Ron Smith from Nanoose Bay, Stephen Foster from Kelowna, Marilyn Timms from Courtenay, Elizabeth MacRitchie from Prince George, Christos Dikeakos from Vancouver and Karen Young from Abbotsford. We also welcomed to the Council Joseph Cross from Cranbrook, Emily Molnar from Vancouver, Donna Moore from Kelowna and Joe Smith from Union Bay.

The arts are a powerful force that helps us to understand who we are and who we can be – custodians of our cultural heritage and a creative window to our future. With support from the Province of B.C., the Council strives to create the opportunities for B.C. artists to fulfill their ambitions and contribute to the quality of life in our communities.

In accordance with the provisions of section six of the Arts Council Act, we present this report on behalf of the BC Arts Council, reporting on activities of the Council from April 1, 2012, to March 31, 2013.

Sincerely,

Stanley Hamilton
Chair

Gillian Wood
Executive Director
BC Arts Council

BC ARTS COUNCIL
STAFF AND COUNCIL LIST

STAFF

Allison Bottomley
Program Officer: Theatre Programs; Senior Arts Policy and Program Advisor

Su Cameron
Coordinator of Finance and Administration

Kelli Clifton
Aboriginal Youth Intern

Jennifer Collinson
Secretary to the Council

Sue Donaldson
Program Officer: Museums, Visual Arts Programs, Media Arts Festivals

Sarah Durno
Associate Director

Sherry Ewings
Program Officer: Media Arts Programs, Multi-disciplinary Festivals; Coordinator: Pan-disciplinary Programs

Linda Johnson
Contract and Database Administrator

Monique Lacerte-Roth
Program Officer: Community Arts Programs; Partnerships

Katherine Leong
Program Officer: Literary, Publishing and Outreach

Vikki McDonald
Branch Administrative Assistant; Website and Forms Administrator

Julie Paskitt
Program Officer: Music, Dance Programs; Coordinator: Professional Festivals

Walter Quan
Program Officer: Music, Arts Awards, Professional Arts Training Programs; Coordinator: Professional Development

Ingmarie Thunander
Program Officer: Scholarship Program; Annual publications; Research

Gillian Wood
Executive Director

Heidi Wudrick
Co-op Research Assistant

COUNCIL

Chair, Stanley Hamilton
Vancouver

Vice-Chair, Jackson Davies
Tsawwassen

Barbara Adams
Victoria

Russell J. Anthony
Vancouver

Merla Beckerman
West Vancouver

Joseph Cross
Cranbrook

Christos Dikeakos (until July 31, 2012)
Vancouver

Stephen Foster (until Dec. 31, 2012)
Kelowna

Gordon Harris
Burnaby

Elizabeth MacRitchie (until July 31, 2012)
Prince George

Lori Marchand
Kamloops

Emily Molnar
Vancouver

Donna A. Moore
Kelowna

Joseph M. Smith
Union Bay

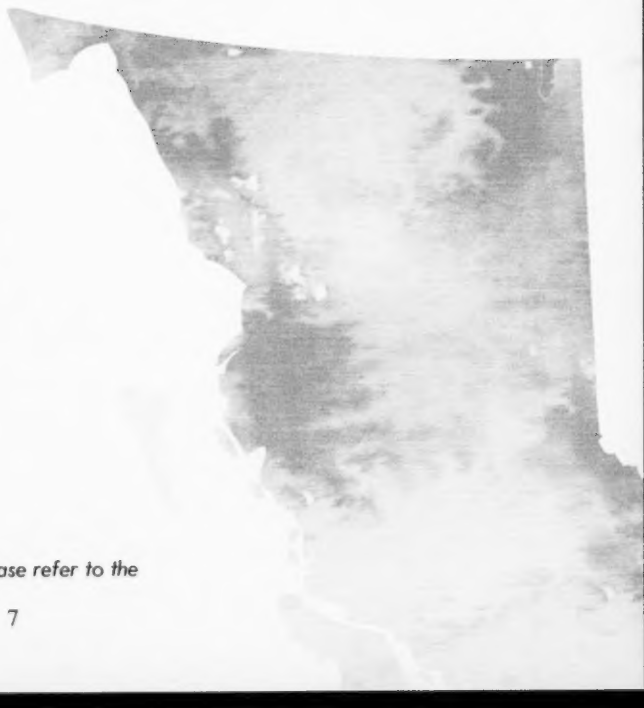
Ron Smith (until July 31, 2012)
Nanoose Bay

Marilyn Timms (until Dec. 31, 2012)
Courtenay

Michael Tindall
Coldstream

Connie Watts
Port Alberni

Karen Young (until Dec. 31, 2012)
Abbotsford



For complete Council member biographies please refer to the BC Arts Council Website

THE ADJUDICATION PROCESS: OBSERVATIONS 2012/13

Summary of assessment provided by BC Arts Council advisors

The BC Arts Council appointed members, management and staff, along with its advisory committees and juries, are committed to providing excellent service to the artists, arts organizations and citizens of British Columbia. Central to the success of this service is the arts community's endorsement of the peer-review process, which is fortified by the breadth and depth of sectoral knowledge that the members bring to the adjudication table.

In constructing the committees and juries, a balance is always sought amongst factors including the province's wide range of cultural practice, and its geographic and demographic diversity. Adjudication committee members are selected based on their specific experience from the Council's client base as well as from online nominations to the adjudicator database (www.bcartscouncil.ca/adjudication/nominate).This selection process ensures that the Council has access to the widest possible spectrum of working artists and arts administrators.

Over the course of the 2012/2013 year, discipline-specific advisory committees discussed issues that arose under the three broad assessment criteria of artistic achievement, community engagement and organizational capacity. These issues reflect critical aspects of creation, development and dissemination of the arts in B.C.

A summary of points made by the discipline advisory committees is as follows:

Artistic Achievement

The Council's peer review panels provided greater clarity regarding the process for fair assessment of Artistic Excellence.

Once again, examples of risk-taking and innovation were evident in proposals from all disciplines, demonstrating the sector's ability to generate inventive, creative approaches to making new work after a time of economic uncertainty.

Community Engagement

Across disciplines, continuing progress was made in the development of meaningful connections between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artists and communities.

Requests for Touring Initiatives assistance, supporting touring outside the province, rose by 30% over 2011/12, indicating the increasing demand for B.C. artists both nationally and internationally.

Overall community engagement was rated higher across disciplines by the peer committees than in years past, indicating strong development of outreach and partnerships throughout the province.

Organizational Capacity

Stable BC Arts Council funding levels provided arts organizations across disciplines with greater predictability in planning their activities.

Once again, new opportunities were created for organizations in the last quarter of the fiscal year as additional funds were delivered through the special project program supporting innovations and commissioning.

In conclusion, progress has been made in the areas of Artistic Achievement, Community Engagement and Organizational Capacity, and needs to continue. Through an increase to the BC Arts Council's core funding in 2013/14 and additional programs such as Capacity and Sustainability , the Council and arts organizations throughout the province will work together to improve results in all three areas of assessment, bringing artistic practice across all disciplines to new levels of excellence, engagement and stability.

2012/13 GOALS OVERVIEW

2012/13 marked the final chapter in the BC Arts Council's 2009-2013 Strategic Plan, which rests on the strong belief that a thriving arts and cultural community contributes not only to a healthy civil society, but also to economic growth, stronger communities and job creation. Thriving arts and cultural communities also foster opportunities to explore issues of heritage and cultural identity, issues that play a central role in B.C.'s cultural diversity.

GOAL ONE - Foster Artistic Excellence

1 | Enhance awareness of what artistic excellence means, why it is important and how the Council assesses excellence.

2 | Provide stimulus and encouragement to artistic excellence by investing resources in exploration and innovation by a broad range of artists and organizations.

3 | Describe, quantify and promote artistic excellence in British Columbia by enhancing and building the understanding of the breadth and depth of artistic production in our province.

4 | Promote increased awareness of the contribution that excellent artistic work makes to the development of artists, art forms and the arts.

GOAL TWO - Strengthen Community Engagement

1 | Strengthen community engagement within arts and cultural communities.

2 | Build awareness of the scope, diversity and excellence of B.C.'s arts and culture.

3 | Strengthen the Council's profile across British Columbia.

4 | Strengthen relationships between the Council and all levels of government.

GOAL THREE -
Support the Unique Role of Aboriginal Artists and Communities

1 | Honour Aboriginal artists and culture.

2 | Increase investment for Aboriginal artists and cultural organizations.

GOAL FOUR -
Enhance Financial and Other Services

1 | Investigate and implement approaches to augment resources from current sources.

2 | Develop a comprehensive planning approach to ensure that the Council's annual budgets reflect core values and long term priorities, regardless of economic circumstances.

3 | Build the Council's network of partners and supporters.

4 | Implement initiatives and models to assist artists and community organizations in risk management associated with fluctuations in funding from the Council.

5 | Provide increased leadership by actively supporting best practices.

GOAL ONE
Foster Artistic Excellence

A fine balance between new, innovative initiatives and annual operating support represents the commitment of the BC Arts Council to fostering artistic excellence in all facets. Funding for innovation through original and challenging work and creative organizational initiatives promotes the evolution of the artistic landscape. Annual support for operations provides the stability necessary to develop healthy and sustainable organizations. Through short term and ongoing support to a range of organizations, artists, and communities, the Council's programs continued to deliver on its objectives in 2012/13.

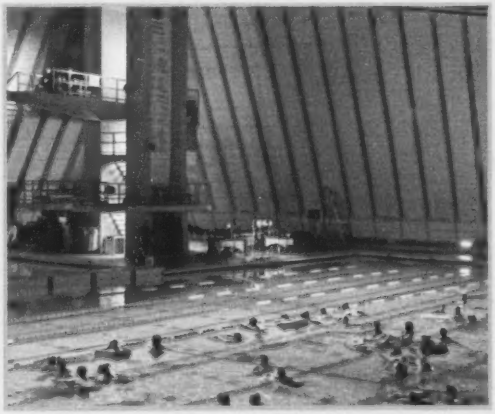
GALLERY GACHET | Vancouver

Through an Innovations grant, Gallery Gachet held "Madness + Mobility: the Art of Inclusion," a four-artist exhibition in Vancouver guest curated by Gabriella Solti that featured work by Melodie Acero, Dean Bennett, Lavinia Chu and Carmen Papalia. The exhibit included public programming, such as guided walks for audiences to experience visual impairment.

Gallery Gachet Madness + Mobility Exhibition. Photo: Gabriella Solti

REDSHIFT MUSIC PRODUCTIONS | Vancouver

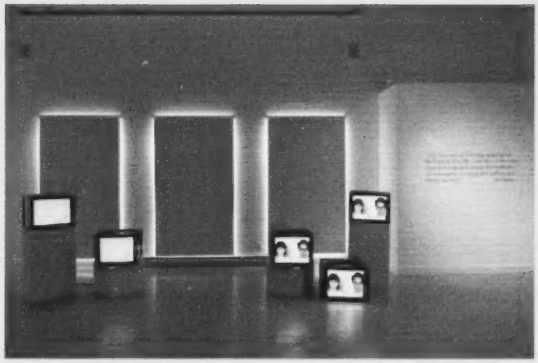
With assistance from an innovations special project grant, Redshift Music presented "The Sinking of the Titanic" at the Vancouver Aquatic Centre to commemorate the 100th anniversary of this tragedy. This unique concert featured Victoria's Aventa Ensemble, led by Bill Linwood, with guest musicians from Vancouver's Negative Zed Ensemble performing Gavin Bryars' "The Sinking of the Titanic", as well as three premieres by Vancouver-based composers: Giorgio Magnanensi's 'quid', Jennifer Butler's 'Under Bleak Skies', and Jordan Nobles' 'Surface Tension'. Musicians, performing from the pool deck and diving platforms, were accompanied by Magnanensi's video projections, with lighting design by Conor Moore and acoustic and electro acoustic elements by Will Howie. The audience experienced the program by either floating in the pool or sitting in the bleachers.



Redshift Music presents *The Sinking of the Titanic* December 4, 2012 Vancouver Aquatic Centre
Photo: Ian Lindsay

ON THE CUTTING EDGE PRODUCTIONS SOCIETY | Vancouver

Through a Professional Projects grant, On the Cutting Edge, with VIVO Media Arts Centre, presented "the Long Time: 21st Century Art of Steele + Tomczak", a major exhibition with photographs, video, and installations, including newly commissioned work, by Canadian artists Lisa Steele and Kim Tomczak. This was the first major exhibition in Vancouver of Steele + Tomczak, recipients of a 2005 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts. This project, curated by Paul Wong, was unique in that it was presented as parallel exhibits in two locations: 1965 Main Street and the Broadway/City Hall Skytrain Station. It included educational components and culminated in the publishing of a book of the same name. The exhibition will tour nationally to Toronto, Winnipeg, Halifax, Winsor, and Ottawa, beginning in Toronto in November of 2013.



The Long Time: 21st Century Art of Steele + Tomczak (Vancouver , 2012)
...before I wake, 2000-2012 Installation view, On Main/VIVO Media Arts Centre
Photo: Henri Robideau

STRATEGY

Stimulate and encourage artistic excellence by:
investing resources in innovation in each discipline
embracing a broad range of practices, careers and forms of organizational design
supporting a range of programs to embrace various artistic mediums, geographic diversity, Aboriginal cultures, and cultural and language diversity

BEST PRACTICES

Investing resources in innovation in each discipline

Innovation refers to the introduction of something new, and is associated with renewal or improvement:

> *"Innovation . . . is generally understood as the successful introduction of a new thing or method . . . Innovation is the embodiment, combination, or synthesis of knowledge in original, relevant, valued new products, processes, or services."* Luecke and Katz (2003)

Support for the creation of innovative new works

The Council's approach to the support of innovation recognizes that evolution in the arts depends on artists pushing the envelope of ideas, materials, and methods. In this context, innovation includes consideration of risk or challenge and originality. Additionally, the Council sees the importance of contributing to the body of work of the province and to B.C.'s cultural legacy, and demonstrating commitment to community access to these innovations.

In 2012/13, the BC Arts Council increased its support for new and innovative projects to $650,000, or 3.86% of total grants awarded. Funding through the Special Projects – Innovations program supported the commissioning, research, development and production of exciting new work in the performing, studio and community arts. With support from the final year of the 2010 Sport and Arts Legacy Fund, the program celebrates the province's legacy of experimentation and creation and provides opportunities for B.C. artists to create outstanding works of art.

Embracing a broad range of practices, careers and forms of organizational design

Support for innovative organizational development initiatives

In addition to enjoying the support provided through the Innovations program, arts and cultural organizations have benefited from assistance through the Special Projects – Capacity and Sustainability program in 2012/13. This program is also made possible through the 2010 Sport and Arts Legacy Fund. Several successful initiatives supported by funding from this program built artistic or administrative sustainability by embracing innovations and implementing best practices. Some were short term adjustments, while others were long term commitments. Projects ranged from deepening human resources capacity at the board or staff level, to implementing marketing and development plans, to acquiring capital equipment to meet changing artist and audience needs.

VANCOUVER ART GALLERY | Vancouver

Through the assistance of operating and special project support provided by the BC Arts Council, the Vancouver Art Gallery presented a diverse program of 18 exhibitions in 2012-2013.

Beat Nation: Art, Hip Hop and Aboriginal Culture, a multimedia and online project initiated by grunt gallery with Aboriginal artists and co-curators Tania Willard and Skeena Reece in 2009, came to the Vancouver Art Gallery where Willard and associate curator Kathleen Ritter extended its scope. ***Beat Nation*** reflects a generation of artists who juxtapose urban youth culture with Aboriginal identity in innovative ways, using new media, music, visual art, poetry and performance art. The Gallery has organized a national tour of *Beat Nation* for 2013-2014, which began at The Power Plant in Toronto and will include a stop at the Kamloops Art Gallery in B.C.

The Gallery also presented *Ian Wallace: At the Intersection of Painting and Photography*. This retrospective was a comprehensive exhibition and publication on the art of this influential Vancouver artist. His work spans more than 40 years and has contributed enormously to international public understanding of Vancouver as a significant home for conceptually-based art.

(Left) Installation view of Beat Nation: Art, Hip Hop and Aboriginal Culture exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery, February 25 to June 3, 2012.
(Right) Installation view of Ian Wallace: At the Intersection of Painting and Photography exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery, October 27, 2012 to February 24, 2013, image features: *Image/Text*, 1979.
Photos: Rachel Topham, Vancouver Art Gallery

THE VANCOUVER SOCIETY FOR EARLY MUSIC | Vancouver

The Vancouver Society for Early Music, a long standing operating client with BC Arts Council, received support through the capacity and sustainability program to implement a succession plan for its artistic director. Over the course of a season the proposal sought to transition the position to an identified employee, requiring double salaries for strategic portions of the year. The changeover ended with the August 2013 Early Music programme and festival. This was considered a best practice in sustainability.

Steven Adby leads and coaches students on stage movement during Early Music Vancouver's 2012 course "The Compleat Singer". Photo: Jan Gates.

Supporting a range of programs to embrace various artistic mediums, geographic diversity, Aboriginal cultures, and cultural and language diversity

Support for core operations of arts and culture organizations

Artistic excellence also includes developing B.C.'s cultural infrastructure, mainly through annual operating assistance for organizations, which contributes to the capacity and sustainability of the sector as a whole. Operating assistance supports the full range of artistic practice, from community arts, dance, literary arts, media arts, music, publishing, theatre, and visual arts, to arts training organizations .

The Council's annual operating assistance programs provide strength and stability in the arts throughout the province, and help ensure that organizations are well positioned to create and present the highest possible calibre of artistic work. In 2012/13, the Council allocated $9,466,550 to operating support for organizations, representing 56% of the total grants budget. Through these grants, organizations are enabled to support and present the work of B.C., Canadian and international artists, bringing artistic excellence and diversity to communities throughout B.C. Annual operating support for solid artistic achievement and sound administration also creates jobs, engages audiences and builds communities. This core support remains central to the fostering of artistic excellence.

LOOKING FORWARD

As the Council's strategic plan is currently being renewed, its core activities remain committed to engaging all British Columbians in a healthy arts and cultural community that is recognized for its excellence. The BC Arts Council will continue to highlight innovation, both artistic and administrative, as part of its commitment to the advancement of B.C.'s cultural legacy.

GOAL TWO
Strengthen Community Engagement

STRATEGY

Help artists and arts organizations to become more engaged with the arts and cultural community

Build awareness of the scope, diversity and excellence of B.C.'s arts and cultural communities

BEST PRACTICES

Help artists and arts organizations to become more engaged with the arts and cultural community

Province-wide engagement through the arts

The BC Arts Council is committed to supporting opportunities for arts and cultural activities and programming throughout the province, and this is reflected in the extent of those opportunities. Over the 2012/13 year, residents and visitors in 214 different communities were engaged in arts activities funded by the BC Arts Council, including those that receive assistance through third party partners supported by the Council. From Abbotsford to Zeballos, people participated in a range of arts activities and programs across all artistic disciplines. The Council continues to strive to meet its commitment to serve all geographic regions of the province, including the Islands and First Nations communities.

The Council's best practice expectations as outlined in program guidelines for operating assistance and project competitions for arts and cultural organizations and its peer adjudication process work together to strengthen community engagement. Excellence in the level, extent and forms of engagement with one or more artistic communities, the broader arts and cultural communities and the general public is assessed as part of a peer reviewed process. Considerations include the value of the engagement to the arts community and the community at large; ongoing engagement with a range of artists, arts organizations and communities, including Aboriginal, culturally diverse and geographically isolated communities; partnerships with other organizations; presentation of work by and employment of British Columbians; and the importance of outreach initiatives to their respective communities.

"BC Arts and Culture Week gets the community out and involved. The workshops draw people that are not active in the arts and don't consider themselves artists. The ripple effect in our small community is palpable and people appreciate the opportunity to meet and create together."

- Sophia Rosenberg, Lasqueti Island Community Arts Council.

ARTS BC & LASQUETI ISLAND COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL | Lasqueti Island

Small incentive grants from the BC Arts Council were distributed through ArtsBC to its members to assist in hosting accessible arts activities during Arts and Culture Week. The Lasqueti Island Community Arts Council's "Mosiac Shrines" workshop, led by artist Valerie De Rege, involved creating small decorative pieces in metal trays and oyster shells using painted or coloured glass, broken china and a favourite figurine or sacred object. The mosaic workshop was part of a series of workshops that took place during the week. Other topics included music theory, life drawing, glass painting and needle felting.

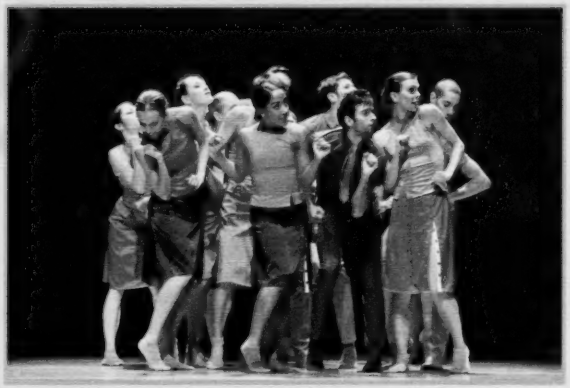
Mosaic Shrines Workshop with Valerie De Rege, Arts and Culture Week 2012, Lasqueti Arts Centre

Build awareness of the scope, diversity and excellence of B.C.'s arts and cultural communities

British Columbians demonstrate familiarity with the BC Arts Council

Each year, the BC Arts Council conducts a survey to gauge public awareness of the Council and participation in the arts throughout B.C. The responses provide insight into one aspect of the Council's engagement with communities. In answer to the question:
"How familiar are you with the BC Arts Council and its current programs and policies?" , the majority of respondents (89%) said they are familiar with the BC Arts Council. This is an 18% increase over the previous year. Fifty-nine percent reported that they are generally or very familiar with the organization, its programs and policies, while another 30%, indicate they are modestly familiar.

PACIFIC BALLET BC SOCIETY | Vancouver



In February 2013, with the support of the Touring Initiatives program, Ballet BC toured an evening of mixed repertoire to five Canadian venues. The performances included works by William Forsythe, Jorma Elo, Medhi Walerski and Ballet BC Artistic Director Emily Molnar carefully chosen to showcase the reinvigorated company's classical roots and contemporary sensibility. The invitation by the National Arts Centre was a significant vote of confidence in the artistic accomplishments of the revitalized company, and is a further acknowledgement of Ballet BC's growing national stature. In its January 2013 issue, the respected Dance Magazine named Ballet British Columbia among its international list of "25 to Watch in 2013".

Artists of Ballet BC in Aniel. Photo: Michael Slobodian

2

British Columbians participate actively in B.C.'s arts and cultural communities

While respondents to a recent survey cited participation in all of the art forms and disciplines supported by the Council, 41% indicated that they participate in the visual arts, while 24% participated in community arts and 23% in music activities. Other disciplines with high engagement include writing, publishing, and theatre.

According to a national study of arts and cultural participation, jointly funded by Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, and Ontario Arts Council, all British Columbians over 15 years of age participated in at least one art, culture or heritage activity during the survey year (2010). Provincial Profiles of Arts, Culture and Heritage Activities in 2010, a report from Hill Strategies Research, provides provincial data regarding the number and percentage of Canadians 15 or older who:

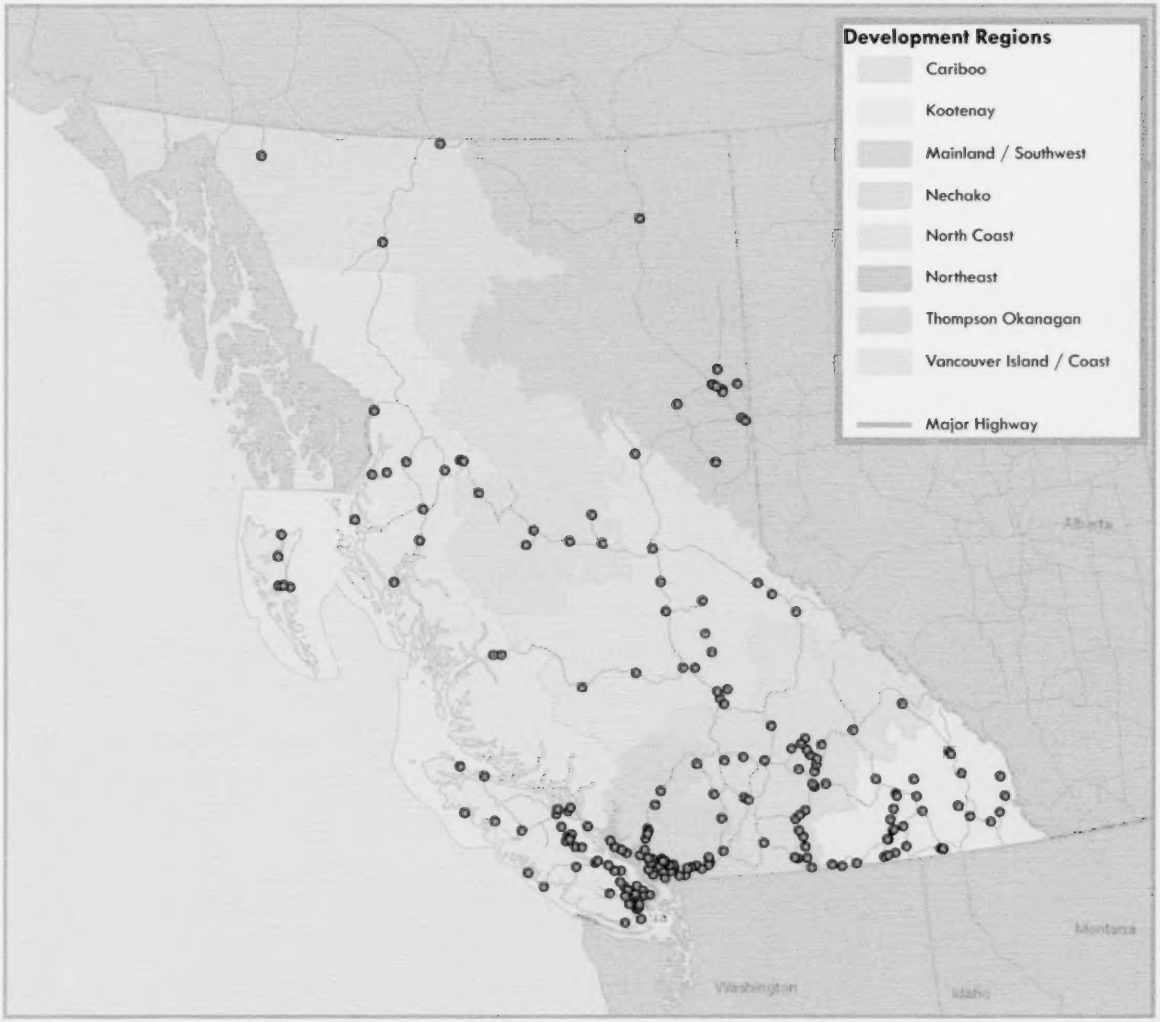
- Visited art galleries or other museums
- Attended live performances
- Visited historic sites and other heritage organizations
- Read newspapers, magazines or books
- Watched movies or videos, or
- Listened to recorded music

Based on the results, the level of British Columbians' attendance at art galleries, classical music performances, and performances of cultural or heritage music, theatre or dance is higher than the national average. The full report is available at: http://hillstrategies.com/content/provincial-profiles-arts-culture-and-heritage-activities-2010.

LOOKING FORWARD

Funding will continue to represent the geographic diversity of British Columbia's communities, and provide opportunities for British Columbians to participate in art recognized for its excellence.

COMMUNITIES BENEFITTING FROM BC ARTS COUNCIL ACTIVITY



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100 Mile House
108 Mile Ranch
150 Mile House
Abbotsford
Agassiz
Aiyansh
Aldergrove
Alert Bay
Alexis Creek
Anmore
Argenta
Armstrong
Ashcroft
Atlin
Baldonnel
Barriere
Bella Coola
Black Creek
Boston Bar
Bowen Island
Brackendale
Brentwood Bay
Britannia Beach
Burnaby
Burns Lake
Campbell River
Canal Flats
Canyon
Castlegar
Cawston
Celista
Charlie Lake
Chase
Chemainus
Chetwynd
Chilliwack
Clearwater
Cobble Hill
Coldstream
Comox
Coquitlam
Courtenay
Cowichan Bay
Cranbrook
Crawford Bay
Crescent Valley
Creston
Crofton
Cumberland
Dawson Creek
Dease Lake
Delta
Denman Island
Deroche
Dewdney
Duncan
Dunster
Elkford
Enderby
Erickson
Errington
Falkland
Fernie
Flatrock
Forest Grove
Fort Langley
Fort Nelson
Fort St. James
Fort St. John
Francois Lake
Fraser Lake
Fruitvale
Gabriola Island
Galiano Island
Garibaldi Highland
Gibsons
Gingolx (Kincolith)
Gitlakdamix (New Aiyansh)
Gitwangak (Kitwanga)
Gold River
Golden
Grand Forks
Grindrod
Hagensborg
Halfmoon Bay
Harrison Hot Springs
Hartley Bay
Hazelton
Heriot Bay
Hixon
Hope
Hornby Island
Horsefly
Hudson's Hope
Invermere
Jaffray
Kamloops
Kaslo
Kelowna
Keremeos
Kimberley
Kitimat
Kyuquot
Ladysmith
Lake Cowichan
Langley
Lantzville
Laxgalts'ap (Greenville)
Lazo
Likely
Lillooet
Lions Bay
Lone Butte
Lower Nicola
Lower Post
Lumby
Lytton
Mackenzie
Madeira Park
Mansons Landing
Maple Ridge
Masset
Mayne Island
McBride
Merritt
Midway
Mill Bay
Mission
Nakusp
Nanaimo
Nelson
New Denver
New Hazelton
New Westminster
North Saanich
North Vancouver
Okanagan Falls
Oliver
Osoyoos
Parksville
Peachland
Pemberton
Pender Island
Penticton

Pitt Meadows	Rose Prairie	Slocan	Tumbler Ridge
Port Alberni	Rosedale	Smithers	Ucluelet
Port Clements	Rossland	Sooke	Valemount
Port Coquitlam	Royston	Sorrento	Vancouver
Port Hardy	Saanichton	South Slocan	Vanderhoof
Port Moody	Salmo	Sparwood	Vernon
Pouce Coupe	Salmon Arm	Squamish	Victoria
Powell River	Saltspring Island	Squirrel Cove	Wells
Prince George	Sandspit	Stewart	West Kelowna
Prince Rupert	Sardis	Summerland	West Vancouver
Princeton	Saturna Island	Surrey	Whistler
Queen Charlotte	Savona	Tahsis	White Rock
Quesnel	Sechelt	Tappen	Williams Lake
Revelstoke	Shawnigan Lake	Tatla Lake	Windermere
Richmond	Sicamous	Taylor	Winlaw
Roberts Creek	Sidney	Terrace	Zeballos
Robson	Silverton	Tofino	
Rock Creek	Skidegate	Trail	

PRESENTATION HOUSE GALLERY, North Vancouver

Through the Touring Initiatives program, the BC Arts Council funded a national exhibition tour of *Models for Taking Part*, organized by Presentation House Gallery and guest curated by Juan A. Gaitan. The tour consisted of work by international artists Anetta Mona Chisa, Lucia Tkacova, Tobia Zielony, and Artur Zmijewski, and was supplemented in Ontario and Sakatchewan venues with work by Bouchra Khalilli, Mark Boulos and Renzo Martens. *Models for Taking Part* was named as one of Canada's top three visual art exhibitions of 2011 by Canadian Art magazine.

With operating support, Presentation House Gallery also exhibited "Phantasmagoria," curated by Helga Pakasaar and Reid Shier. Borrowing its name from the 18th-century projection technology, this exhibit used the work of 15 artists to explore the impact of photography and photographic techniques.

From the exhibition Phantasmagoria, May 24 – July 22, 2012
Photo: Eric Hood

GOAL THREE
Support the Unique Role of Aboriginal Artists and Communities

STRATEGY

Increase investment for Aboriginal artists and cultural organizations
Honour Aboriginal artists and culture

BEST PRACTICES

Increase investment for Aboriginal artists and cultural organizations

Aboriginal Arts Development Awards (AADA) Aboriginal artists and arts and cultural organizations represent a diverse array of artistic practices in communities across the province. The BC Arts Council values the principle of self-determination in support for Aboriginal artists and communities. Through a longstanding partnership with the First Peoples' Cultural Council, support is provided for grants, program delivery, outreach and program development. Each year, emerging Aboriginal artists, administrators and practitioners are recognized and supported through the Aboriginal Arts Development Awards Program. In addition, all BC Arts Council programs are accessible to eligible Aboriginal artists or arts organizations and artists or arts organizations from diverse cultural and regional communities of B.C.

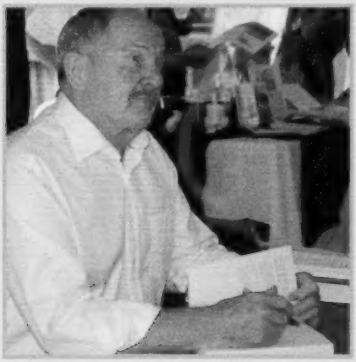
The BC Arts Council provided $480,000 in funding to AADA in 2012/13, (2.85% of the Council's overall grants budget), stable to that in the prior year and an increase over the base year of 2009/10, in which $450,000 (or 2.5% of the overall budget) was allocated.

FIRST PEOPLE'S CULTURAL COUNCIL & T'SOU-KE ARTS GROUP | Sooke

Through the Aboriginal Arts Development Awards, T'Sou-ke Arts Group (TAG) will receive funding to assist them in establishing an arts centre in their community. This comes as a result of some very strategic planning and hard work that TAG has undertaken during the past 5 years. During that time TAG has developed an enthusiastic core group of artists through the delivery of arts training workshops, including wool and cedar bark weaving, knitting, carving, drum making, and singing. This has positioned them to be awarded this grant, which will support their next steps toward establishing a more permanent home for workshops and public presentation of the various arts being created by the group.

TAG (T'souke Arts Group) led by Linda Bristol of the Sooke First Nation
Harvesting Cedar strip bark

SUNSHINE COAST FESTIVAL OF THE WRITTEN ARTS | Sechelt



Operating client Sunshine Coast Festival of The Written Arts celebrated its 30th anniversary in August 2012. The festival featured 28 Canadian writers including Wayson Choy, Jane Urquhart, Camilla Gibb, Michael Crummey, Lorna Crozier, Patrick Lane, Richard Wagamese, Gail Bowen, and Peter Robinson. The anniversary presented an opportunity to honour and celebrate the festival's history and included a panel discussion with its "founding mothers": Betty Keller, Maureen Foss, Rosella Leslie, and Gwen Southin.

Recently this organization joined with the Sechelt Nation, School District No. 46 and Capilano University (Sunshine Coast campus) to present, for the first time, kexalmixws te xexelem skalawmixw, an Aboriginal storytelling festival. It included a visit by an Aboriginal storyteller to every elementary and secondary school on the Sunshine Coast, and a public evening event featuring a traditional welcome song performed by the xwamstut dance group and the screening of four short digital stories created by shishalh youth about their elders.

Patrick Lane (top), xwamstut dance group performing welcome song at the opening event (bottom), 2012 Sunshine Coast Festival Of The Written Arts. Photos: Cathie Roy

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY | Vancouver

The UBC Museum of Anthropology, a BC Arts Council operating client, held a retrospective exhibition from March 7 – September 3, 2012 of the late Kwakwaka'wakw master carver, Doug Cranmer. The exhibition featured Cranmer's carvings, paintings, prints and photographs, as well as audio clips of Cranmer speaking about his life and works and excerpts of his conversations with family and friends.

Installation of *Kesu' The Art and Life of Doug Cranmer* at the UBC Museum of Anthropology. Photo: Vitor Munhoz.

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Honour Aboriginal artists and culture

Funding Programs, Council Meetings and Aboriginal Internship

The BC Arts Council aims to honour Aboriginal artists and culture in several ways. Council programs are accessible to Aboriginal artists or arts organizations and artists or arts organizations from diverse cultural and regional communities of British Columbia.

Best practices in ongoing engagement with a range of artists, arts organizations and communities including Aboriginal communities is one of several factors evaluated by peer assessment committees.

When selecting peer assessment committee members, the Council considers broad professional knowledge, expertise, geographical representation and diverse aesthetic, institutional, and cultural viewpoints.

Acknowledgement of traditional territories on which BC Arts Council meetings are held is a commitment made by the Council to honour the pre- and post-contact history of British Columbia. Again in 2012/13, 100% of BC Arts Council meetings acknowledged traditional territories. This included peer-adjudication (advisory or jury) meetings as reported by the advisory and jury chair and all Council meetings reported by the meeting secretary.

In addition, the current year saw the BC Arts Council benefit from the efforts of an Aboriginal Youth Intern. In addition to workshops and presentations for staff regarding Aboriginal engagement, the Kelli Clifton developed an online publication that will be made available on the BC Arts Council website in the 2013/14 year.

RICHARD WAGAMESE

Kamloops author Richard Wagamese, an Ojibway from the Wabaseemoong First Nation, received support through Project Assistance for Creative Writers in 2009/10 to develop "Indian Horse". His sixth novel, it was published by Douglas & McIntyre in February 2012, adding to an impressive body of work. "Indian Horse" was a finalist in CBC Canada Reads 2013. Recently, Wagamese received Council support for his new novel "Medicine Walk".

ARTSTARTS IN SCHOOLS & SK'AADGAA NAAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | Haida Gwaii

Through the third party agreement with ArtStarts in Schools, the BC Arts Council distributes funding for art-based school activities.

The Giving Trees of Haida Gwaii

During a recent artist residency at Sk'aadgaa Naay Elementary School in Haida Gwaii, over eight weeks students explored their environment with the arts as their compass. Surrounded by forests, the school is ideally situated to engage with nature. On guided hikes, the students in kindergarten through Grade 7 learned about the life cycles of the trees and their significance in Haida culture. Painting exercises, yoga and meditation encouraged the students to tap into their own connections to the forest, helping them to develop their sensitivity to the natural world. These experiences were channeled into a series of felting

Students learned about environmental science and local cultural heritage, and delved deep within themselves - and then directed everything they learned into their artistic process. They were challenged to learn how to employ a new method of expression to share their learning and their experiences with the world - and they certainly rose to the occasion. Funded in part by an Artists in the Classroom grant, this project was exhibited in the ArtStarts Gallery where many visitors could hardly believe that such stunning pieces were the work of small hands.

Sk'aadgaa Naay Elementary School Children participating in *The Giving Trees of Haida Gwaii*, Haida Gwaii

LOOKING FORWARD

The BC Arts Council is privileged to include Aboriginal artists and experts in Aboriginal culture, and continues to encourage all its applicants to articulate how their work thrives within a province rich with Aboriginal diversity.

GOAL FOUR
Enhance Financial and Other Services

STRATEGY
Provide increased leadership by actively supporting best practices
Develop a comprehensive planning approach to ensure that Council's annual budgets reflect core values and long term priorities, regardless of economic circumstances

CORTES ISLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES SOCIETY | Cortes Island

The Cortes Island Museum and Archives Society is celebrating the completion of its Legacy Building Expansion Project with a ribbon cutting ceremony on July 14, 2013. With the support of a capital grant through the Capacity and Sustainability program, the Society has doubled its workroom, public access and collection storage capacity. This legacy project commemorates the founding of Manson's Landing in 1888. Supported by the Professional Project Assistance Program, the feature display *Manson's Landing Exhibit: Creating Community on Cortes Island* marks the significance of this 125th anniversary.

Nancy Kendel, volunteer, preparing Margaret Manson's 1895 wedding dress for new exhibit

TNW THEATRE NORTH WEST SOCIETY | Prince George

Theatre North West (TNW) received a grant through Capacity & Sustainability to support the purchase of new draperies and a traveler track for their almost eighteen year old converted warehouse venue. Through this upgrade and enhancement of the Parkhill Centre Mall facility, TNW can continue to operate at expected standards and meet patrons' expectations by presenting a better quality environment. The new drapes provide a more professional look and feel, improved serviceability, and better sound quality allowing engagement with and attraction of a diversity of artists and technicians who will maintain and build on this organization's reputation for high quality productions.

Lucy Hill and Benjamin Wardle in *That Summer* by David French. Set Design by Ross Nichol. Photo: Jim VanderPloeg

BEST PRACTICE

Provide increased leadership by actively supporting best practices
CADAC, program guidelines and peer assessment

The BC Arts Council collects financial and statistical information about organizations applying for Operating Assistance through a national online database called CADAC (Canadian Arts Data/Données sur les arts au Canada). This system enables arts organizations applying for operating funding from public funders who are members of CADAC to submit their financial and statistical information in the same format to all three levels of government, and also allows organizations to generate a variety of useful management reports, for example to compare their data with those of other organizations across Canada.

Further practices that support enhanced financial services include the annual revision of program guidelines that request organizations to address questions of best practice in their applications, and the assessment of those organizations according to best practice criteria by advisory committees and juries.

Dimensions upon which applicants to Operating Assistance programs are asked to demonstrate critical self reflection and upon which they are assessed by their peers include current abilities in planning, communications, audience development, marketing, fund development, financial management and governance. In addition, the presentation of realistic budget assumptions and projections, with a diversified revenue base including earned revenues, federal and local government support and private fundraising, is evaluated. By highlighting these best practices throughout the granting process, the Council supports all artists and organizations in continuous improvement and evolution toward the excellence demonstrated by the artistic leaders of the province, the country and the world.

Develop a comprehensive planning approach to ensure that Council's annual budgets reflect core values and long term priorities, regardless of economic circumstances

In the 2012/13 year, $16,830,992 was awarded by Council to 1033 successful applicants. A total number of 2275 applications was received, requesting a total of $35,942,931. Because these figures include all third party delivery partners, some of which have other funding in place, the total dollar value of awards equalled $16,946,214. Budgeting and planning processes implemented at the board and management levels resulted in overall sector stability during a somewhat uncertain funding environment.

LOOKING FORWARD

A streamlined process for the revision of program guidelines was implemented in the current year, and refinements to the advisory and jury processes are under development. With these initiatives, the BC Arts Council will continue to encourage best practices in the sector.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Grants and Contributions	2011/12 Base	2011/12 Sport & Arts Legacy	2011/12 BC150	2012/13 BCAC Base	2012/13 Sport & Arts Legacy	2012/13 BC150
Professional Arts Development	$6,756,996	$5,834,995	$6,000	$6,736,999	$5,871,736	$4,165
Community Arts Development	$106,000	$424,078	$1,168,697	$100,000	$396,264	$1,170,735
Touring Programs	$172,000	$125,000	$460,000	$173,500	$134,000	$462,600
Arts Awards (Individuals)	$576,500	$215,000	$515,000	$616,000	$190,000	$512,500
Publishing Programs	$319,462	$150,927	$0	$304,493	$158,000	$0
Administrative Costs	$1,455,334	$0	$0	$1,527,029	$0	$0
Total Expenditures	$9,386,292	$6,750,000	$2,149,697	$9,458,021	$6,750,000	$2,150,000

Total Expenditures by Year	2011/12	$18,285,989	2012/13	$18,358,021

BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL
An agency of the Province of British Columbia

1st Floor, 800 Johnson Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1N3
Tel: (250) 356 -1718
www.bcartscouncil.ca